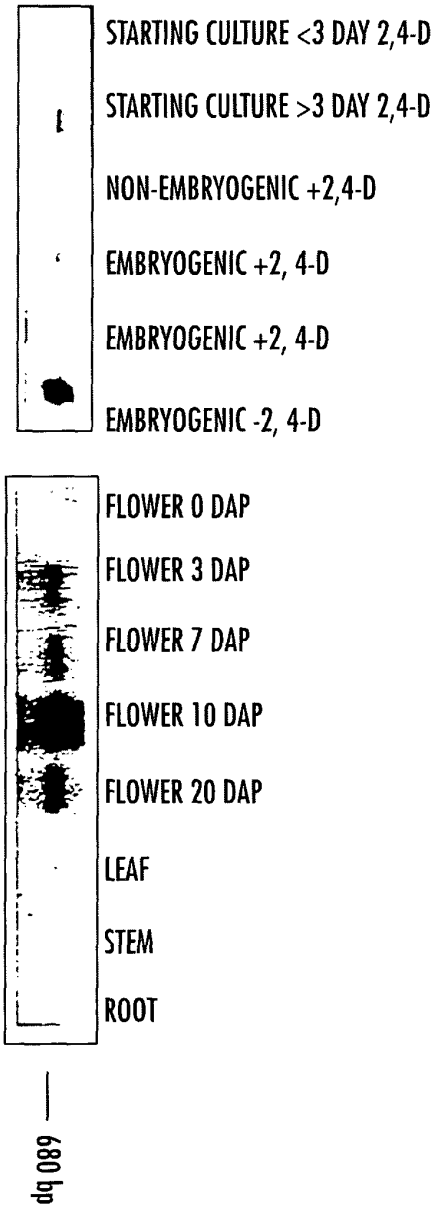

FIG. 1

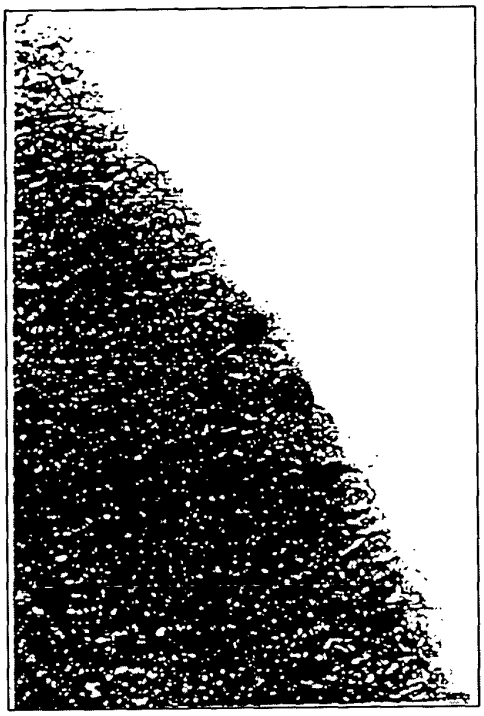

FIG. 2A

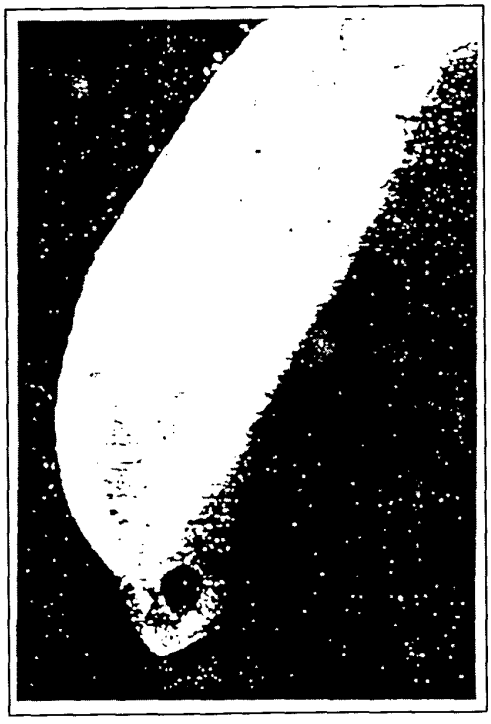

FIG. 2B

FIG. 3A

FIG. 3B

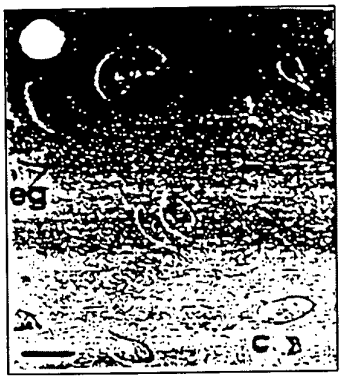

FIG. 3C

FIG. 3D

FIG. 3E

FIG. 3F

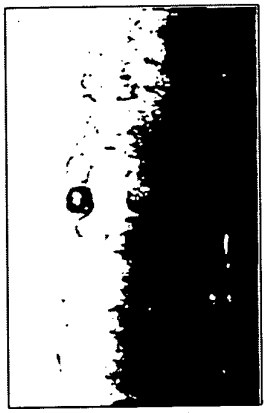

FIG. 3G

FIG. 3H

FIG. 3I

FIG. 3J

no. I no. II no. III

FIG. 4A

Arabidopsis WS plants transformed with the 2200 bp SERK-luciferase construct show a phenotype at the seedling level. Pictures were taken at 28 days after germination of T2 seeds. In plant II and III no clear shoot meristem is visible at the seedlings stage, 7 days after germination. The first two leaves, if they develop at all, are needleshaped as shownon the pictures taken 28 days after germination. At this time plant I, which shows no clear phenotype, already starts flowering. Secondary shoot meristems are already developing in plant no. II and will also develop later from no. III. Shoot meristems, influorescences and normal flowers eventually develop on all plants.

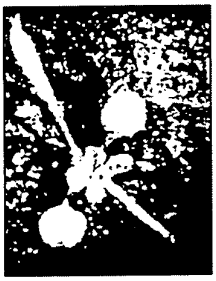

FIG. 4B

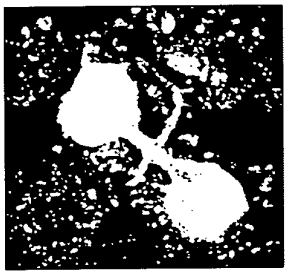

FIG. 4C

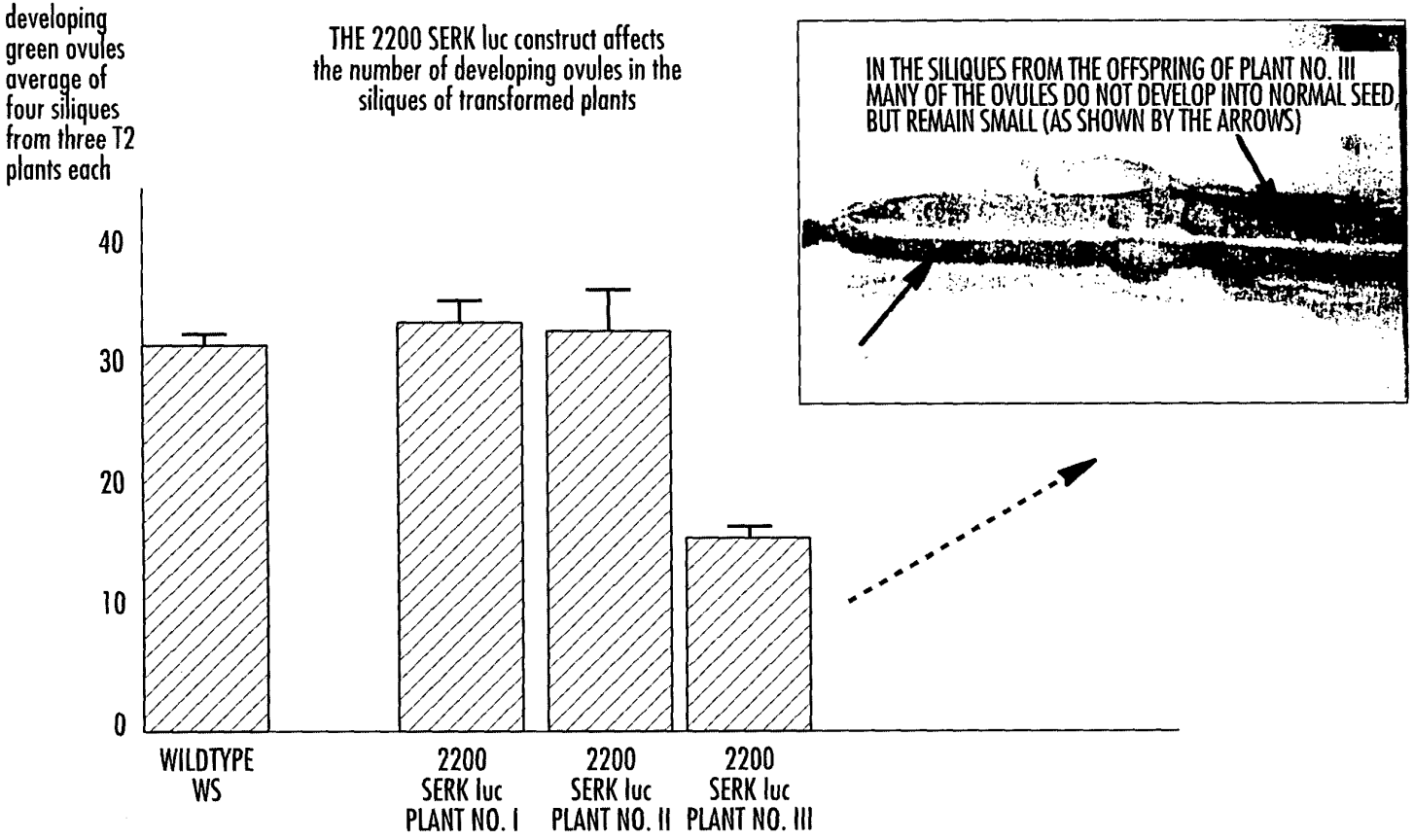

FIG. 5

Purified SERK fusion protein is used for autophosphorylation in vitro. Most, if not all of the phosphorylation of SERK takes place on threonine residues.
lane 1, the purified SERK fusion protein: lane 2, serine phosphate: lane 3, threonine phosphate; lane 4, tyrosine phosphate.

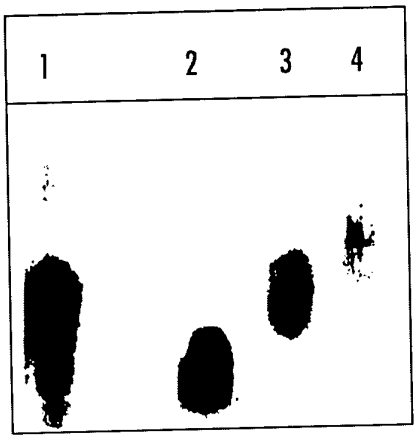

FIG. 6